

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District

NOTICE OF CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING AND INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Notice is hereby given that the Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District, as the lead agency, will hold a public hearing at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 31, 2013, to accept comments on the Central and South County Restructuring Plan including Service on New Streets in Downtown Hayward (the Project), and the Draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration prepared for the Project.

Project Location: The proposed Project would affect bus service in the cities of Hayward, Fremont, Newark and Union City, and in unincorporated urban areas of Alameda County north of these cities. Two transbay lines to eastern San Mateo County would also be affected.

Project Description:

Downtown Hayward Service on Streets Previously Not Served

As part of the City of Hayward Route 238 Mission Corridor Improvement Project, AC Transit was required to re-route its service to four new street segments in conjunction with the new Mission Boulevard/Foothill Boulevard couplet implementation. The project involved changing the flow of traffic to a single direction in a loop configuration affecting the "Five Flags" area from Jackson Street and Mission Boulevard up to A Street and Foothill Boulevard. Southbound traffic now travels from Foothill Boulevard down A Street then onto Mission Boulevard. Northbound traffic flows from Mission Boulevard and Jackson Street in the south onto Foothill Boulevard until it becomes two-way alignment again north of A Street. From the north, Main, A, C, and D streets offer several ways to access Downtown Hayward. Heading out of Downtown, Main, B, C, and D Streets all have access back to the loop or across it to access the Hayward BART Station or the Upper B Street neighborhood. These changes also required changes to AC Transit service in these areas to allow similar circulation and coverage; this includes operation on street segments previously not served by AC Transit buses. The changes affect lines 48, 93, 99, 801 and 22, which now operate on the following new street segments:

- Fletcher Lane between Mission Boulevard and Watkins Street, heading northbound only
- Watkins Street between Fletcher Lane and D Street, heading northbound only
- A Street between Foothill Boulevard and Mission Street, heading westbound only
- Main Street between C Street and A Street, heading northbound only

In accordance with Section II, 2(e)(3) of AC Transit Board Policy No. 163 (Public Hearing Processes for the Board of Directors), this change was classified as an emergency due to the City of Hayward's decision to advance implementation of the project, resulting in insufficient time to provide the required public hearing notification before the change occurred. The City of Hayward provided notification to properties along the affected segments prior to implementation on March 5, 2013.

Central and South County Service Restructuring Plan

The Central and South County Service Restructuring Plan (the Plan) is intended to increase productivity and grow ridership in Central and South Alameda County. The Plan would eliminate some of the lowest performing routes and route segments and reinvest those resources into the core network. Routes under 14 passengers per revenue hour constituted a low performing route. The cities of Newark and Fremont (Special District 2) have a return-to-source funding structure. The Plan maintains approximately the same level of service in Special District 2 but still reallocates resources to improve efficiency. District 2 would see an increase of 5.5 (1%) platform hours on weekdays and an increase in 19 (6.6%) platform hours on weekends.

Staff presented the AC Transit Board of Directors with the Preliminary Draft Restructuring Plan on December 12, 2012. The Board directed staff to present the Plan to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Political Advisory Committee (PAC) for Special District 2. In late December and early January, City staff provided useful feedback and the Plan was redrafted accordingly. Following these meetings, staff presented the Plan to the TAC on January 14, 2013, and to the PAC on February 20, 2013, where no further changes were requested. The Plan would affect the following AC Transit bus lines: M, DA, 68, 85, 99, 200 (new line), 212, 215, 216, 232, 242, 251, 264, 275, 332, 333, 345, 350 and 391.

The Draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration

To determine the appropriate environmental document for the Project an Initial Study was prepared by Rincon Consultants, Inc., in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act and Implementing Guidelines, as well as AC Transit Board Policy No. 512. This study determined that the environmental impacts of the Project were less than significant and, in most cases, there was no impact. A proposed Draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration (DIS/ND) was deemed to be the appropriate environmental document, subject to public review and comment.

Your comments are invited: Public comment on the Draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration and the Project, as described above, are invited either before or at the public hearing scheduled for 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 31, 2013, at Hayward City Hall, City Council Chambers – Second Floor, 777 B Street in Hayward, California. The public is urged to submit written comments by letter, facsimile, or email, or oral comments may be left on voicemail, but these must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 29, 2013, in order to be copied and provided to the Board of Directors for review. Written or voicemail comments will receive the same attention as verbal comments received at the public hearing. Written comments also may be submitted at the hearing. Please address written comments to:

AC Transit, Board of Directors
1600 Franklin Street
Oakland, CA 94612

By Fax: (510) 891-7157

By Email: planning@actransit.org

By Voicemail: (510) 891-7201

For the Spanish-language notice and comments, please call: (510) 891-7291

For the Chinese-language notice and comments, please call: (510) 891-7292

Additional Public Meetings

In addition to the public hearing on July 31, 2013, at the City of Hayward City Hall, two Community Meetings are scheduled at the following locations on the dates indicated to receive public comment on the Project and the DIS/ND:

Newark Community Meeting
Tuesday, July 16, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Newark City Hall Council Chambers, 6th floor
37101 Newark Blvd., Newark

Hayward Community Meeting
Thursday, July 18, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Hayward City Hall, Room 2A
777 B St., Hayward

Meeting site is wheelchair accessible.

Upon request, a sign language interpreter will be present at the hearing. Foreign language interpreters can be provided, if needed. Please contact the District Secretary's Office at (510) 891-7201 by Thursday, July 25, 2013, at 5:00 p.m., to make arrangements. For TDD for hearing impaired, call 711, California Relay Service, and specify (510) 891-4700.

Transit to the Hearing Site

For trip planning, visit www.actransit.org or call 511 (and say "AC Transit"). The meeting site is approximately a 5-minute walk from the Hayward BART station.

Please do not wear scented products to the meeting.

For more information, please contact Linda Morris, Senior Transportation Planner, at (510) 891-4764 or lmorris@actransit.org.

Copies of the Draft Initial Study-Negative Declaration (if not enclosed with this notice) and related documents are on file and available for public review at AC Transit's website at www.actransit.org and at the District's offices at 1600 Franklin Street in Oakland, California and at Fremont City Hall, 3300 Capitol Ave., Fremont, CA; Hayward City Hall, 777 B Street, Hayward, CA; Newark City Hall, 37101 Newark Blvd., Newark, CA and Union City City Hall, 34009 Alvarado-Niles Rd., Union City, CA.

This notice will also be posted in the Alameda County Clerk's-Recorder's Office.

Signature: _____

Name:

David A. Wolf

Title:

General Counsel

DIS/ND Review Dates:

July 1 to July 31, 2013

Newspaper Publication Dates: July 1, July 17 and July 24, 2013